

In the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions.

1. (previously presented) A signal-repeating device control arrangement for use in a facility having different types of user-controllable devices that are co-located with respective user-interface units in various zones of the facility and that provide user-selectable information to the user, the respective user-interface units providing input selectors for controlling operation of the user-controllable devices, the signal-repeating device control arrangement comprising:

 a user-interface control device having a user interface for receiving inputs from a user and having a transceiver for sending data wirelessly in response to the user inputs and for receiving data;

 for use in communicating with the zone-located user-controllable devices and the zone-located user-interface units, a signal-repeating base-station including

 a base-station transceiver adapted to communicate data with the user-interface control device and the zone-located user-interface units, and

 a data-routing circuit adapted to respond to the user inputs received via the base-station transceiver by sending designated groups of digital data sets to manipulate operation of at least one of the different types of user-controllable devices.

2. (previously presented) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 1, wherein the user-interface control device further includes a display for communicating user data in response to data received from the signal-repeating base-station.

3. (original) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 2, wherein the display of the user-interface control device is a touch-panel display.

4. (previously presented) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 1, wherein the user-interface control device includes a touch-panel display.

5. (original) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 1, wherein the transceiver of the user-interface control device is further adapted to communicate bi-directionally and wirelessly with the base-station transceiver.

6. (original) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 1, wherein the data-routing circuit includes a data processor that is programmable for controlling operation of the signal-repeating base-station and further includes a data-input circuit for downloading certain programming data.

7. (original) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 6, wherein the certain programming data is configuration data.

8. (original) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 6, wherein the certain programming data is program-execution code for execution by the data processor.

9. (original) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 1, wherein the data-routing circuit includes a programmable data processor that is adapted and programmed to emulate communication with the user-controllable devices, the communication being otherwise provided by at least one of the zone-located user-interface units.

10. (original) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 9, wherein the data-routing circuit communicates with at least one of the user-controllable devices via infrared signaling.

11. (original) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 1, wherein the data-routing circuit communicates with at least one of the user-controllable devices via infrared signaling.

12. (original) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 1, wherein the data-routing circuit includes a programmable data processor that is adapted and programmed to emulate communication with the user-controllable devices, the

communication being otherwise provided by at least one of the zone-located user-interface units, and further including a data-routing switch that is adapted to communicatively and selectively couple data between selected ones of the different types of user-controllable devices and the programmable data processor.

13. (original) The signal-repeating device control arrangement of claim 12, wherein the data is communicatively coupled between the data-routing switch and the programmable data processor via infrared circuits located and arranged with the data-routing switch and the signal-repeating base-station, respectively.

14. (previously presented) A signal-repeating device control arrangement for use in a facility having different types of user-controllable devices that are co-located with respective user-interface units in various zones of the facility and that provide user-selectable information to the user, the respective user-interface units providing input selectors for controlling operation of the user-controllable devices, the signal-repeating device control arrangement comprising:

a user-interface control device having a user interface for receiving inputs from a user, having a transceiver for sending data wirelessly in response to the user inputs and for receiving data, and having a programmable configuration for providing user control over the different types of user-controllable devices;

for use in communicating with the zone-located user-controllable devices, a signal-repeating base-station including

a base-station transceiver adapted to communicate data with the user-interface control device,

a data-routing circuit adapted to respond to the user inputs received via the base-station transceiver by sending designated groups of digital data sets to various zones of the facility to manipulate operation of at least one of the different types of user-controllable devices, and

a data port adapted to download information for configuring both the signal-repeating base-station and, via the base-station transceiver, for configuring the user-interface control device.